

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 05851 062222Z

70

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 SS-20 PRS-01 OPR-02 SY-04 INR-11

A-01 L-03 IO-14 EB-11 SCA-01 AF-10 EA-11 EUR-25

NEA-14 RSC-01 USSS-00 FBIE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7604

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJ: ATTACK ON EMBASSY CONTRACT GUARD VEHICLE

1. AT 0015 HOURS AUG 6 SECURITY GUARDS AT THE RESIDENCE OF MINISTER JOSEPH MONTLLOR NOTICED A LIGHT YELLOW MODEL 404 PEUGEOT PARKED NEAR THE RESIDENCE. A SECURITY CONTRACT PATROL CAR WAS CONTACTED BY RADIO AND REQUESTED TO INVESTIGATE. UPON ARRIVAL OF THIS PATROL CAR THE PEUGEOT RAPIDLY DEPARTED THE SCENE. SUBSEQUENTLY FEDERAL POLICE PATROL CARS WERE DIRECTED INTO THE AREA BUT WERE UNABLE TO LOCATE THE PEUGEOT. AT THE TIME THE PEUGEOT DEPARTED THE AREA IT CIRCLED THE BLOCK PASSING IN FRONT OF THE MINISTERS RESIDENCE BEFORE DEPARTING.

2. AT APPROXIMATELY 0420 HOURS AUG 6 A PATROL VEHICLE MANNED BY A DRIVER AND ONE ADDITIONAL SECURITY GUARD (SECURITY COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES EMPLOYED UNDER CONTRACT BY AMERICAN EMBASSY BUENOS AIRES FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING PROTECTION TO THE RESIDENCES

OF EMBASSY STAFF MEMBERS) DURING THE COURSE OF ROUTINE PATROL WAS PROCEEDING ALONG AVENIDA VICENTE LOPEZ. A LIGHT COLORED (YELLOW OR WHITE) PEUGEOT MODEL 404 WAS PROCEEDING IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION. AS IT APPROACHED THE CONTRACT GUARD
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PAGE 02 BUENOS 05851 062222Z

PATROL CAR SMALL ARMS FIRE WAS DIRECTED AT THE PATROL CAR.

TWO ROUNDS WERE FIRED. ONE ROUND STRUCK THE LEFT REAR FENDER OF THE PATROL CAR. SECURITY GUARDS IN THE PATROL CAR RETURNED FIRE ON THE PEUGEOT FIRING SIX ROUNDS FROM HAND GUNS. THE PEUGEOT DEPARTED THE AREA. THEREFORE HITS ON THE PEUGEOT COULD NOT BE DETERMINED.

3. IT WAS THE OPINION OF THE GOA FEDERAL POLICE THAT THE CAR WHICH HAD BEEN DETECTED IN THE VICINITY OF THE MINISTERS RESIDENCE AND THE CAR WHICH FIRED ON THE CONTRACT SECURITY GUARD VEHICLE WERE ONE AND THE SAME CAR.

4. ON 1 AUG A SECOND SECRETARY OF THE BRITISH EMBASSY FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING TO THE SECURITY OFFICE, AMERICAN EMBASSY:

A) ON 26 JUN THE BRITISH MINISTER DEPARTED HIS CHANCERY FOR HIS QUARTER. HE NOTICED THAT HE WAS BEING FOLLOWED BY A FIAT 128.

B) ON 16 JUL THE BRITISH MINISTER ONCE AGAIN DEPARTED HIS CHANCERY FOR HIS RESIDENCE. DURING THE COURSE OF THIS TRIP HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY A FOLLOW CAR GUARD DETAIL. HE NOTICED HE WAS BEING FOLLOWED BY WHAT APPEARED TO BE THE SAME CAR WHICH WAS FOLLOWING HIM ON JUN 26. EVASIVE ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THE PART OF THE MINISTER. THE CAR PERFORMING THIS SURVEILLANCE BROKE OFF. UPON THE MINISTERS ARRIVAL AT HIS HOME A FIAT 1500 WAS PARKED IN FRONT OF HIS HOUSE, INSIDE OF THE FIAT WAS A MAN AND WOMAN. WHEN THE MINISTERS BODYGUARD APPROACHED THIS CAR TO REQUEST IDENTIFICATION THE FIAT 1500 RAPIDLY DEPARTED THE SCENE.

C. ON JUL 30 THE SENIOR COUNSELOR OF THE BRITISH EMBASSY DEPARTED THE CHANCERY FOR HIS HOME. HE OBSERVED THAT HE WAS BEING FOLLOWED BY A FIAT 128. THIS FIAT WAS THE SAME COLOR AS THE FIATS WHICH HAD FOLLOWED THE MINISTER. THE LICENSE PLATE OF THIS AUTO WAS RECORDED. IT WAS FOUND TO BE THE SAME PLATE AS DISPLAYED ON THE CAR FOLLOWING THE MINISTER. A SUBSEQUENT CHECK BY FEDERAL POLICE OF THE LICENSE PLATE ON THE FIAT 1500 REVEALED THAT THIS PLATE WAS NOT REGISTERED TO A FIAT 1500 BUT WAS REGISTERED TO A FIAT 128. FEDERAL POLICE FURNISHED NO INFORMATION TO THE BRITISH EMBASSY CONCERNING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BUENOS 05851 062222Z

THE IDENTITIES OF THE INDIVIDUALS WHO OWN THE CARS.

D. ON AUG 5 THE SENIOR COUNSELOR BRITISH EMBASSY ADVISED THE SECURITY OFFICE THAT HIS EMBASSY HAD BEEN INFORMED BY THE FEDERAL POLICE BASED ON INFORMATION CONCERNING THE APPARENT CASING OPERATIONS, THAT SOME TYPE OF ACTION WAS BEING PLANNED AGAINST SOME MEMBER OF THE BRITISH EMBASSY. THE SENIOR COUNSELOR ALSO ADVISED THAT THE BRITISH MINISTER HAD

TEMPORARILY DEPARTED THE AREA AND THAT HE HAD MOVED OUT
OF HIS RESIDENCE TO A DIFFERENT LOCATION.
HILL

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